1 James Weiler, AZ Bar No. 034371 WEILER LAW PLLC 2 5050 N. 40th St., Suite 260 Phoenix, AZ 85018 3 Tel & Fax: 480.442.3410 4 jweiler@weilerlaw.com 5 Attorneys for Plaintiffs 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 DISTRICT OF ARIZONA 9 Rachael Gilburd, an Arizona Resident; Case No.: 2:23-CV-00010-DLR 10 Andrew Gebhart, an Arizona Resident; 11 Daniel Featherstone, Arizona an Resident; Derek Martin, an Arizona 12 Resident; Angela McGuire, an Arizona FIRST AMENDED COLLECTIVE 13 Resident; Kori Morin, an Arizona ACTION COMPLAINT FOR Resident, Katherine Redas, an Arizona **COMPENSATION UNDER 29 U.S.C. §** 14 201, ET SEQ. Resident, Erin Salava, an Arizona Resident; David Vallejo, a Michigan 15 Resident; and Nick Vincent, an Arizona 16 (Demand for Jury Trial) Resident, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated 17 Plaintiffs, 18 19 v. (Assigned to the Hon. Douglas L. Rayes) 20 Rocket Mortgage, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company; 21 22 Defendant. 23 Plaintiffs Rachael Gilburd, Andrew Gebhart, Daniel Featherstone, Derek Martin, 24 25 Angela McGuire, Kori Morin, Katherine Redas, Erin Salava, David Vallejo, and Nick 26 Vincent ("Plaintiffs"), individually, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated 27 for their First Amended Collective Action Complaint against Defendant Rocket Mortgage, 28 LLC ("**Rocket**" or "**Defendant**") hereby alleges as follows:

5050 N. 40th St., Suite 260, Phoenix, AZ 85018 Tel & Fax: 480.442.3410 – info@weilerlaw.com

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

PRFI	IMINA	RYSTA	ATEMENT

- 1. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members¹ are current and former mortgage bankers employed by Defendant.
- 2. Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and all other similarly situated Collective Members who were not fully compensated their overtime wages.
- 3. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members were non-exempt and were not paid one-and-one-half times their regular rates of pay for all time worked in excess of 40 hours in a given workweek.
- 4. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members bring this action against Defendant for their unlawful failure to pay overtime in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 201-219 (hereinafter "FLSA").
- 5. This is an action for equitable relief, overtime wages, unpaid wages, liquidated damages, interest, attorneys' fees, and costs under the FLSA.
- 6. The FLSA was enacted "to protect all covered workers from substandard wages and oppressive working hours." Under the FLSA, employers must pay all nonexempt employees one-and-one-half times their regular rates of pay for all time spent working in excess of 40 hours per workweek. See 29 U.S.C. § 207(a).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 29 U.S.C. § 201, et seq.
 - 8. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c)

¹ Collective Members are fully defined below, under the Collective Action Allegations header.

because acts giving rise to the claims of Plaintiffs and the Collective Members occurred within the District of Arizona, and Defendant regularly conducts business in and has engaged in the wrongful conduct alleged herein – and, thus, are subject to personal jurisdiction in – this judicial district.

9. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties hereto pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.

PARTIES

- 10. At all relevant times to the matters alleged herein, Plaintiffs resided in the District of Arizona.
- 11. At all relevant times to the matters alleged herein, Plaintiffs were full-time employees of Defendant.
- 12. At all relevant times to the matters alleged herein, Plaintiffs were employees of Defendant as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(e)(1).
- 13. At all relevant times to the matters alleged herein, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members were non-exempt employees.
- 14. Defendant Rocket Mortgage LLC is a company authorized to do business in Arizona.
- 15. Defendant was Plaintiffs' and the Collective Members' employer as defined by 29 U.S.C. § 203(d).
- 16. Upon reasonable belief, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members, in their work for Defendant, were employed by an enterprise engaged in commerce that had annual gross sales of at least \$500,000 in 2020.
 - 17. Upon reasonable belief, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members, in their work

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

for Defendant, were employed by an enterprise engaged in commerce that had annual gross sales of at least \$500,000 in 2021.

- 18. Upon reasonable belief, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members, in their work for Defendant, were employed by an enterprise engaged in commerce that had annual gross sales of at least \$500,000 in 2022.
- 19. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members, in their work for Defendant, were engaged in commerce or the production of goods for commerce.
- 20. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members, in their work for Defendant, were engaged in interstate commerce.
- 21. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members, in their work for Defendant, regularly handled goods produced and transported in interstate commerce.
- 22. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members would communicate regarding business matters via telephone.
- 23. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members are covered employees under individual coverage.
- 24. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members are covered employees under enterprise coverage.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS RELATING TO PLAINTIFFS

- 25. Defendant Rocket Mortgage, LLC is a mortgage company.
- 26. From approximately April 2020 through July 2021, Plaintiffs were employed by Defendant under the business entity name of Quicken Loans, LLC. On or about, July 30, 2021, Quicken Loans, LLC changed its name to Rocket Mortgage, LLC.
 - 27. Prior to on or about April 15, 2020, Plaintiffs were employed by Defendant

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

1, 2019 until August 18, 2022.

38.

under the business entity name of Quicken Loans, Inc. Quicken Loans, Inc. was converted into Rocket Mortgage, LLC on or about April 15, 2020. 28. Plaintiff Rachael Gilburd was employed by Defendant from on or around August 7, 2020 until August 27, 2022. 29. Plaintiff Andrew Gebhart was employed by Defendant from on or around January 14, 2013 until February 8, 2022. 30. Plaintiff Daniel Featherstone was employed by Defendant from on or around October 14, 2013 until August 29, 2022. Plaintiff Derek Martin was employed by Defendant from on or around 31. February 5, 2018 until August 12, 2022. 32. Plaintiff Angela McGuire was employed by Defendant from on or around January 4, 2021 until August 1, 2022. 33. Plaintiff Kori Morin was employed by Defendant from on or around March 9, 2015 until August 17, 2022. 34. Plaintiff Katherine Redas was employed by Defendant from on or around June 5, 2017 until October 1, 2022. 35. Plaintiff Erin Salava was employed by Defendant from on or around July 2, 2021 until July 19, 2022. 36. Plaintiff David Vallejo was employed by Defendant from on or around November 16, 2015 until May 6, 2022. 37. Plaintiff Nick Vincent was employed by Defendant from on or around July

During their employment, Plaintiffs' were mortgage bankers whose primary

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

job duties included the origination of residential mortgages.

- At all relevant times, Plaintiffs were to be paid what was called a "salary" on 39. their paystubs but was really pay for 40 hours of work at an hourly rate at or near minimum wage.
- 40. Prior to May of 2020, Plaintiffs received commissions based upon their ability to get loans for customers approved.
- Beginning in May of 2020, Plaintiffs commissions were changed to 41. "Monthly Sales Incentive" on their paystubs.
- The method of calculating the "Monthly Sales Incentive" changed regularly 42. throughout Plaintiffs' employment with Defendant.
 - 43. Plaintiffs also received pay for incentives and contests.
 - 44. Plaintiffs routinely worked in excess of 40 hours per week.
- 45. During each pay period, Plaintiffs were paid for the first 40 hours they worked at a rate at or near minimum wage and called "Salary" on their pay stub.
- 46. Plaintiffs did not have a clear and mutual understanding with Defendant that the "Salary" line item on their paystubs was intended to be a fixed salary that was intended to be compensation for all hours worked each workweek regardless of the number of hours worked.
- 47. The amount of the "Salary" line item on Plaintiffs' paystubs was not sufficient to compensate Plaintiffs at a rate not less than the applicable minimum wage rate for every hour worked in those workweeks in which the numbers of hours the Plaintiffs worked was the greatest.
 - 48. During each pay period Plaintiffs worked over 40 hours, Plaintiffs were also

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

paid an amount for "Salary Adjust", "Salary Adjust OT", and "Overtime."

- 49. Plaintiffs did not have a clear and mutual understanding of the purpose or method of calculation for the line items on their paystubs called "Salary Adjust", "Salary Adjust OT", and "Overtime."
- For the "Salary Adjust" line item, Plaintiffs were paid an additional amount 50. for some overtime hours worked at the minimum wage rate.
- 51. As a result of the "Salary Adjust" compensation, Plaintiffs alleged salary varied from week to week depending on the number of hours worked.
- 52. In 2020 and 2021, the hourly rate at which Plaintiffs were paid for "Salary Adjust" was less than the hourly rate for their non-overtime hours.
- 53. In 2022, the hourly rate at which Plaintiffs that did not reside in Arizona were paid for "Salary Adjust" was less than the hourly rate for their non-overtime hours.
- 54. Plaintiffs were also paid an amount for "Salary Adjust OT" and "Overtime" on their paystubs.
- 55. In 2020 and 2021, and 2022 for non-Arizona residents, the amounts paid for "Salary Adjust OT" and "Overtime" plus the amount for "Salary Adjust" resulted in Plaintiffs receiving less than one and a half times their regular rate of pay in each workweek on their regular paychecks.
- 56. Once a month, Plaintiffs were paid commissions, monthly incentive pay, contest pay, and award gifts.
- 57. The method of calculating commissions and monthly incentive pay changed numerous times during Plaintiffs employment. However, the commissions and monthly incentive pay were always based upon the number of loans that the Plaintiffs were able to

have approved or closed.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

- 58. In addition, once a month, Plaintiffs were paid an additional sum for "Retro OT."
- 59. Plaintiffs did not have a clear and mutual understanding as to the method of calculation for the "Retro OT" line item.
- 60. The "Retro OT" pay was not calculated by adding up the amount of commissions, monthly incentive pay, or other award compensation that was attributable to a given workweek plus the regular rate for all hours worked, divided by the number of hours worked and then multiplied by 1.5 and then multiplied by the number of overtime hours.
- 61. The method Defendant used for calculating the regular rate and paying out overtime was in violation of the FLSA, as they among other things only multiplied the commissions or incentive pay by one half times the overtime hours worked instead of one and a half times.
- 62. While Plaintiffs were paid some overtime pay, Plaintiffs were not paid the correct amount of their overtime wages.
 - 63. At all times, Plaintiffs were required to be on call 24/7, seven days a week.
- 64. Plaintiffs were instructed by their supervisors, managers, and directors that they were required to promptly respond to emails and telephone calls on weeknights and weekends.
- 65. If Plaintiffs failed to timely respond to emails or telephone calls after normal work hours during the week and on weekends, they could be subjected to negative comments from supervisors, discipline, threats of termination or termination.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

	66.	Plaintiffs	were	instructed	by	management	to	refrain	from	engaging	in
activi	ties tha	t would pre	event t	hem from	bein	g able to prom	ptl	y respon	nd to e	mails or ca	ılls
on we	eknigh	ts and week	cends.								
	<i>(</i> 7	D1 : .:cc		,		4 1 C 11		· 1		.1 1	1

- Plaintiffs were not compensated for all overtime hours they worked 67. responding to emails or telephone calls on weeknights or on weekends.
- 68. Defendant was aware that Plaintiffs were responding to emails and taking telephone calls on weeknights and weekends and that Plaintiffs' were not being compensated for working these overtime hours.
- 69. At all times relevant, Defendant improperly calculated Plaintiffs regular rate of pay pursuant to the FLSA.
- 70. Defendant failed to properly incorporate the commissions, incentives, awards, and additional compensation paid to Plaintiffs in each pay period as part of the determination of their regular rate of pay.
- 71. As a result, Defendant failed to pay Plaintiffs overtime at a rate of 1.5 times Plaintiffs' regular rate of pay pursuant to the FLSA.
- 72. At all relevant times during Plaintiffs' employment, Defendant failed to properly compensate Plaintiffs for all of their overtime hours worked.
- 73. Defendant was aware that Plaintiffs' working hours routinely exceeded 40 hours.
- 74. Defendant required Plaintiffs to work overtime as a condition of their employment.
- 75. Defendant wrongfully withheld wages from Plaintiffs by failing to pay all wages due for overtime hours Plaintiffs worked.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

76.	Defendant refused and/or failed to properly disclose or apprise Plaintiffs	O
their rights u	nder the FLSA.	

77. Defendant's failure and/or refusal to compensate Plaintiffs at the rates and amounts required by the FLSA was willful.

COLLECTIVE ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 78. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Collective Members, realleges and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.
- Plaintiffs bring this action on behalf of themselves and all other similarly 79. situated individuals pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b).
 - 80. The proposed collective class for the FLSA claim is defined as follows:

All persons who work[ed] for Defendant Rocket Mortgage, LLC or its predecessor entities Quicken Loans, LLC and Quicken Loans, Inc.; who work[ed] over 40 hours in any given workweek as a past or present mortgage banker or similar title, or who performed the job duties of working with borrowers through loan processing (the "Collective Members").

- 81. Plaintiffs have given their written consent to be Named Party Plaintiffs in this action pursuant to U.S.C. § 216(b). As this case proceeds, it is likely that other individuals will file consent forms and join as "opt-in" plaintiffs.
- 82. At all relevant times, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members are and have been similarly situated, have had substantially similar job requirements and pay provisions, and are and/or have been subject to Defendant's decision, policy, plan, and common programs, practices, procedures, protocols, routines, and rules of willfully failing and refusing to pay one-and-one-half times Plaintiffs' and the Collective Members' regular rates of pay for all time in excess of forty (40) hours per workweek that Defendant suffered or permitted them to work.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

- 83. Plaintiffs' claims stated herein are essentially the same as those of the Collective Members. This action is properly maintained as a collective action because in all pertinent aspects the employment relationship of individuals similarly situated to Plaintiffs' are identical or substantially similar.
 - 84. Defendant paid Plaintiffs and the Collective Members an hourly rate.
- 85. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members routinely worked over forty (40) hours in a given workweek and were not compensated at the appropriate overtime rate by Defendant for all hours they worked over forty in a given workweek.
- 86. The Collective Members perform or have performed the same or similar work as Plaintiffs.
- 87. As such, the Collective Members are similar, if not identical, to Plaintiffs in terms of job duties, pay structure, and/or the denial of overtime pay.
- 88. Defendant's failure to pay overtime compensation required by the FLSA results from generally applicable policies or practices and does not depend on the personal circumstances of the Collective Members.
- 89. The experiences of Plaintiffs, with respect to their pay, are typical of the experiences of the Collective Members.
- 90. All collective members, irrespective of their particular job requirements and job titles, are entitled to overtime compensation based upon their appropriately calculated regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of forty (40) during a given workweek.
 - 91. Notice of this action should be sent to all similarly situated employees.
- 92. There are numerous similarly situated current and former employees of Defendant who have been denied appropriate compensation in violation of the FLSA, who

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

would benefit from a Court supervised notice of the lawsuit and the opportunity to join the case.

93. Those similarly stated employees are known to Defendant and are readily identifiable through Defendant's records.

COUNT I (FAILURE TO PAY OVERTIME WAGES – FLSA – 29 U.S.C. § 207)

- 94. Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Collective Members, reallege and incorporates by reference all allegations in all preceding paragraphs.
- 95. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members are/were non-exempt employees entitled to the statutorily mandated overtime wages.
- 96. While employed by Defendant, Plaintiffs and the Collective Members worked numerous hours of overtime that Defendant did not pay at the correct overtime rate or at all.
- 97. As a result, Defendant has intentionally failed and/or refused to pay Plaintiffs and the Collective Members all owed overtime according to the provisions of the FLSA.
- 98. Defendant further has engaged in a widespread pattern and practice of violating the provisions of the FLSA by failing and/or refusing to pay Plaintiffs and the Collective Members in accordance with 29 U.S.C. § 207.
- 99. Defendant knew that – or acted with reckless disregard as to whether – their refusal or failure to properly compensate Plaintiffs and the Collective Members over the course of their employment would violate federal law, and Defendant was aware of the FLSA overtime requirements during Plaintiffs' and the Collective Members' employment. As such, Defendant's conduct constitutes a willful violation of the FLSA.
 - As a result of Defendant's failure or refusal to pay Plaintiffs and the

Collective Members a wage equal to one-and-one-half times Plaintiffs' and the Collective Members' regular rates of pay for work they performed for Defendant in excess of their regular 40-hour workweek, Defendant violated 29 U.S.C. § 207(a).

101. Plaintiffs and the Collective Members are therefore entitled to compensation of one-and-one-half times their regular rates of pay for all hours worked, to be proven at trial, plus an additional equal amount as liquidated damages, together with interest, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, individually, and on behalf of all other similarly situated persons, respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief in Plaintiffs' and the Collective Members' favor, and against Defendant:

- A. Designation of this action as a collective action on behalf of the FLSA Collective Members (asserting FLSA claims) and prompt issuance of notice pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) to all similarly situated members of the FLSA opt-in class, apprising them of the pendency of this action, and permitting them to timely assert FLSA claims in this action by filing individual Consent to Sue forms pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);
- B. For the Court to declare and find that the Defendant committed one or more of the following acts:
 - violated overtime provisions of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 207, by failing to pay overtime wages;
 - ii. willfully violated overtime provisions of the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 207;
- C. For the Court to award compensatory damages, including liquidated damages pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b), to be determined at trial;
 - D. For the Court to award prejudgment and post-judgment interest;

	Case 2:23-cv-00010-DLR Document 26 Filed 02/10/23 Page 14 of 14
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	E. For the Court to award Plaintiffs' reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of the action pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216(b) and all other causes of action set forth herein; F. For the Court to provide reasonable incentive awards for the named Plaintiffs to compensate them for the time they spent attempting to recover wages for the Collective Members and for the risks they took in doing so; and G. Such other relief as this Court shall deem just and proper; RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED February 10, 2023. WEILER LAW PLLC By: /s/ James Weiler 5050 N. 40th St., Suite 260 Phoenix, AZ 85018 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
18 19	